

"Johnson's Inn"
Five miles west of Paris,
Bourbon County, Kentucky

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District No. 20

Historic American Buildings Survey
G. M. Grimes, District Officer
304 Martin Brown Building
Louisville, Kentucky

Name of structure: "Johnson's Inn"

Location: Five miles west of Paris, Bourbon County, Kentucky, on pike between Georgetown and Paris.

Owner or custodian: Jno. M. Clay, Birdie Clay Webb, Susie and Annie Clay.

Address: Paris, Bourbon County, Kentucky

Date built: Prior to 1784
(approx)

Architect
or builder:

Present condition: Fair

Number of stories: Two stories and attic; also basement.

Material used in construction: Foundation: Native stone.
Exterior walls: Brick, painted white.
Interior partitions: Brick and frame, plastered.
Floors: Wood.
basement: earth.

Description: This old building is shown on Filson's first map of Kentucky made in 1784. It is said that Andrew Jackson stopped at this inn on his way to Washington.

The property was bought from Wm. Johnson by Joseph Helm Clay in 1832, who willed it to the present owners.
(Statement of present owners)

Johnson's Inn was on the main road from Lexington to Limestone (now Maysville). The middle fork of Cooper's Run flows in front of it.

Quoting the owners: "An old resident said he had seen fifty covered wagons here at one time", and "Another said, he saw it re-shingled in 1812".

Quoting from the Kentuckian-Citizen, Paris, Kentucky, December 7, 1928: "The house and all outbuildings, respectively, corn crib, meat house (which is still in use), dairy and Dutch ovens, etc., were made of brick. The partitions between the rooms are brick; woodwork solid walnut, doors on the lower floor panelled, with six panels; upper floor doors are battled".

Statement of District Officer HABS: "The main entrance hall has been altered. The main stairs being replaced by a narrow, enclosed stairs without any hand-railing. The original kitchen is still being used, the large stone fireplace serving as a means of heating the rooms as well as for cooking, if necessary.

G. M. Grimmer

Revised 1936 by H.C.F.